

67

HIS MAJESTIES Declaration,

IN ANSWER TO
A Declaration of the LORDS and
COMMONS assembled in Par-
liament, for the raising of all Power
and Force, as well Trained Bands as
others, in severall Counties of this
Kingdom, to lead against all Trai-
tors and their Adherents, &c.



Y O R K:
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer
to the Kings most Excellent Majestic: And
by the Assignes of JOHN BILL.

MDCLII.

THE
LIBRARY OF THE
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
AND
ZOOLOGY
OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON
1000
1000



A
DECLARATION
 OF THE
LORDS and COMMONS
 Assembled in
PARLIAMENT.

W Hereas certain Information is given from severall parts of the Kingdom, that divers Troops of horse are imployed in sundry Counties of the Kingdom, and that others have commission to raise both horse and foot, to compell his Majesties Subjects to submit to the illegall Commission of Array, out of a Traiterous intent to subvert the Liberty of

A 2

the

the Subject, and the Law of the Kingdom, and for the better strengthening themselves in this wicked attempt, do joyne with the Popish and Jesuiticall faction to put the Kingdom into a combustion and civill War, by leavying forces against the Parliament, and by these forces to alter the Religion, and the ancient Government, and lawfull Libertie of the Kingdom, and to introduce Popery and Idolatry, together with an Arbitrary form of Government : And in pursuance thereof, have Traiterously, and Rebelliously leavyed war against the King, and by force robbed, spoiled and slain divers of his Majesties good Subjects travelling about their lawfull and necessary occasions in the Kings protection according to Law, and namely that for the end and purpose aforesaid, the Earl of *Northampton*, the Lord *Durham*, Lord *Villoby* of *Eresby*, Son to the Earl of *Linsey*, *Henry Hastings* Esquire, and divers other unknown Persons in the Counties of *Lincoln*, *Nottingham*, *Leicester*, *Warwick*, *Oxfordshire*, and other places, the Marquesse of *Hertford*, the Lord *Paulet*, Lord *Seymer*, Sir *John Stawell*, Sir *Ralph Hopton*,

ton, Iohn Digby Esquire, and other their Accomplices, have gotten together great forces in the County of *Sommerſet*.

The Lords and Commons in Parliament duly conſidering the great dangers which may enſue upon ſuch their wicked and Trayterous deſignes, and if by this means the power of the ſword ſhould come into the hands of Papiſts and their Adherents, nothing can be expected but the miſerable ruine and deſolation of the Kingdom, and the bloody maſſacre of the Proteſtants : They do Declare and Ordain, that it is, and ſhall be lawfull, for all His Majeſties loving Subjects, by force of Arms to reſiſt the ſaid ſeverall parties, and their Accomplices, and all other that ſhall raiſe or conduct any other forces for the ends aforeſaid, and that the Earl of *Effex* Lord Generall, with all his forces raiſed by the authoritie of Parliament ; as likewiſe the Lord *Say*, Lieutenant of *Oxfordſhire*, Earl of *Peterborough*, Lieutenant of *Northamptonſhire*, Lord *Wharton*, Lieutenant of *Buckinghamſhire*, Earl of *Stamford*, Lieutenant of *Leiceſterſhire*, Earl of *Pembrook*, Lieutenant of *Wilt-*

shire and Hampshire, Earl of *Bedford*, Lieutenant of *Somersetshire* and *Devon*, Lord *Brook*, Lieutenant of *Warwickshire*, the Lord *Cramborne*, Lieutenant of *Dorsetshire*, the Lord *Willoughby* of *Parham*, Lieutenant of *Lincolnshire*, and all those who are or shall be appointed by Ordinance of both Houses to perform the place of Deputy Lieutenants, and their Deputy-Lieutenants respectively, *Denfild Hollis* Esquire, Lieutenant of the Citie and County of *Bristol*, and the Majors and Sheriffs of the Citie, and Deputy Lieutenants there, and all other Lieutenants of Counties, Sheriffs, Majors, Deputy-Lieutenants, shall raise all their power and forces of their severall Counties, as well Trained Bands as others, and shall have power to conduct, and lead the said forces of the said Counties against the said Traytors and their adherents, and with them to fight, kill and slay all such as by force shall oppose them, and the Persons of the said Traytors, and their Adherents and Accomplices to arrest and imprison, and them to bring up to the Parliament, to answer this their Trayterous and Rebel-
 lious

lious attempts according to Law , and the
 same or any other forces to transport and
 conduct from one County to another, in ayd
 and assistance one of another , and of all o-
 thers that shall joyn with the Lords & Com-
 mons in Parliament, for the defence of the
 Religion of Almighty God, and of the Li-
 berties and Peace of the Kingdom, and in
 pursuit of those wicked and Rebellious
 Traytors, their Conspirators, Ayders, and A-
 bettors and Adherents, requiring all Lieu-
 tenants of Counties, Sheriffs, Majors, Justi-
 ces of Peace, and others His Majesties Offi-
 cers and loving Subjects, to be ayding and
 assisting to one another in the Execution
 hereof, and for their so doing, all the parties
 above mentioned, and all others that shall
 joyn with them, shall be justified, defended
 and secured by the Power and Au-
 thority of Parliament.



His M A J E S T I E S Declaration,

In Answer to a Declaration of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, for the raising of all Power and Force, as well Trained Bands as others, in severall Counties of this Kingdom, to lead against all Traitors and their Adherents, &c.



As much experience as we have had of the inveterate rancour and high Insolence of the malignant Party against us, we never yet saw any Expression come from them so evidently declaring it, as the Declaration, intituled, A Declaration of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament for the raising of all Power and Force, as well Trained Bands, as others in severall Counties of this Kingdom, to lead against all Traitors and their Adherents, &c. In which that Faction hath, as it were distilled and

and contracted all their Falshood, Insolence, and Malice, there being in it not one Period which is not either Slanderous or Treasonable. And nothing can more grieve Us, then that by their infinite Arts and Subtilty (implored by their perpetuall & indefatigable industry) and by that Rabble of Brownists and other Schismaticks, declaredly ready to appear at their call, they should have been able so to draw away some, and drive away others of Our good Subjects from Our Parliament, as to prebail with the major part remaining of both Houses (how much soever that major part be the smaler in comparison of the whole) to suffer that name (whose reverence by all means We desire to preserve) to be so soiled, as to be prefixt to a Paper of this unsufferable nature, that tends not onely to the destruction of Our Person, but to the dissolution of this Government, and of all Societie; If at least this Declaration (which We rather see cause to hope it hath not) have so much as been seen in the Houses, and be not the single work of the same omnipotent Committee, to which is devolved the whole power of the Parliament, and which, as We understand, is trusted (without acquainting the Houses) to break up any mans House, and take away the Arms and Money intended to defend and feed him (if they shall see cause to suspect that he meant to assist his Sovereign with them) and may well be as fully and implicitly trusted to declare, as to Act whatsoever they please. And though We doubt not, but to

B

their

their utmost they will continue that Injury to
 us, and that Violation of the Subjects Liberty,
 and of publike Right, to vex and Imprison those
 who shall publish any of Our Answers to their
 Declarations (and indeed whilst they affirm
 against all Truth, and command against all Law,
 it concerns them to take care, that nothing be
 heard but what they say) yet Our comfort is, that
 Our Intentions, and the Duie of Our Sub-
 jects are so well and so generally known to Our
 People, that We cannot fear (from whom soever
 it come, and though no Answer came out with it)
 that, either what is there said should be beleebed,
 or what is there commanded should be obeyed.
 Who knows not, that Our Commissions for
 Horse and Foot were not granted out, till not onely
 Our Prerogative, but Our Propriety, Our
 Goods, Arms, Towns, Militia, and Negative
 Voice were taken from us, and all the Kingdom
 commanded to be in Arms, and invited to bring in
 Horse, Plate and Money, to frame an Armie
 against Our Command and Proclamation, and
 till Horse were raised and Quartered accordingly,
 and then with no intention (nor hath any Action
 in any of Our Ministers given the least suspicion
 of such an Intention) by them to compell Our
 Subjects to submit to Our Commissions of Ar-
 ray, or make use of them against the Parliament,
 but to regain Hull held out in Rebellion against
 us, and to suppress all such as without Our Au-
 thoritie and against Our Commands should raise
 Forces in this Our Kingdom, and leaue us
 against

against us, under pretence of any Order or Ordinance of one or both Houses, and such Traiterous Assemblies and Marches have been the onely lawfull and necessary Occasions of Our good Subjects, which have been so much as interrupted by any Troops of Ours; And what is affirmed of the spoiling and killing them, as they were so travelling under Our Protection, and according to Law, is a most malicious Affirmation, as well without Trueth, as without Instance; invented at once to make Our Troops terrible, and us odious to Our People.

What care have we taken, that by this means the power of the Sword should not come into the hands of Papists, who have by Our Proclamation strictly charged, That no Papist should presume to List himself, either as Officer or Soldier in this Our Army, having directed how he should be discovered, if he did presume, and suffer, if he were discovered? What care have we taken to avoid Combustion and civill War, offering to lay down Our Arms when they should have laid down theirs; in whom it was Treason to take them up, and restored us those things which could not without Treason, as well as Injustice, be forced away and kept from us, Our Arms, Ships, Town, &c. And when we might meet both Our Houses in a safe and secure place to debate freely of all the differences in a Parliamentary way. And by whose influences these Propositions were received, and whether the Proposer or Rejecters were most carefull to avoid this ruine

and desolation of the Kingdom, We leave all the world to judge; and whether they who divert the Men and Money collected for the reliefe of distressed Ireland, to raise forces against their Prince (who asks them nothing but what is legall, nor will deny them any thing that is) do not joyn with the Popish and Jesuiticall faction in the bloody massacre of many thousand Protestants in that miserable Kingdom. We propose likewise to every mans judgment, whether the declaring those to be Traitors, who execute Our Commission of Array (issued in so many Kings Reigns, agreed upon by Parliament, and there yielded to by the King, to be settled as now it is, as a matter of great Grace; and since that time, which was in 5. Hen. 4. in no Parliament complained of) whilst Our good Subjects are vexed and imprisoned, not onely for resisting, but for humbly petitioning, so as may seem but to insinuate something against their most illegall Commands concerning the Militia; (to which power of Commanding no Title can be made by any Statute, or any President, nor can we ever finde by search, nor obtain to be told what those fundamentall Laws are by which it is pretended; so deep those Foundations are laid beyond all means of discovery) And the declaring that those who raise men by vertue of Our Command and Commission, (the onely Legall way) Traiterously and Rebelliously leavy War against the King; and ordaining it to be Lawfull for all Our Subjects by force of Arms to resist them, and their Accomplices; and the raising forces
by

by Authority of Parliament (that is by the remaining part of both Houses) never in the most outrageous Times before attempted, and commanding severall Persons, whom they call Lieutenants, to lead, and giving them Power to transport from one County to another the Forces of severall of Our Counties against them, and to kill and slay all such as by Force shall oppose them, Our Self not excepted; commanding all Our Officers and Subjects to be assisting to them, and undertaking to secure them for so doing, by the Power and Authority of Parliament, (which is first to allow, and next to command, and then to pardon Treason) be not to have already subverted, as much as in them lies, the Liberty of the Subject, the Law of the Land, and altered the Ancient Government of the Kingdom, leaving Our Subjects without all Rule to walk by, when the most cleer Laws cannot direct and secure them, and they see all those ancient Bounds past over, which were ever as much known to be the duty of both Houses to observe, as it was evident that there were, and that it was necessary that there should be Two Houses of Parliament; and at once behold the Law (which is to protect and defend the Subject) and Us (who are to protect and defend the Law) need defence and protection. We doubt not therefore but all Our good Subjects will come in to Our Assistance, and that this wicked Charge of intending to introduce Popery, Idolatry, and Arbitrary Government, laid

by Implication upon us (because we defend Our Self, and would recover Our Own) will be so far from being a Motive against us, that this intolerable Indignity and damnable Scandall (so daily and visibly confuted by all Our professions and Actions) will increase Our good Subjects zeal towards us, and their indignation against the Contrivers: And they will esteeme themselves obliged by the Religion of Almighty God, to oppose this War, so impiously, so treasonably, and so groundlessly made upon us, their King, and His Anointed. We therefore require all Our Commissioners of Array, Sheriffs, and all Our other Officers and Ministers, to raise all the Power and Forces of their severall Counties, to assist the Marquesse of Hertford, the Earl of Northampton, the Lord Willoughby of Eresby, the Lord Paulet, the Lord Dunsmore, the Lord Seymour, Henry Hastings Esquire, Sir John Stowell, Sir Ralph Hopton, John Digby Esquire, and all other in the Legall and necessary execution of Our Commissions of Array, and in the raising and conducting of such Horse and Foot as shall be raised by Our Commission, and by force of Arms to oppose the Earl of Essex, the Lord Say, and all other that shall raise or conduct any Forces raised by pretence of Authority of both Houses, and the persons of all such Traitors and their Adherents and Accomplices to arrest and imprison, to the end they may be brought to a fair and Legall trial by their Peers, and according to the Law: And this we require

quire from them, as they tender the defence of
 Our Person, The true Religion, The Law of the
 Land, The Liberty and Property of the Subject,
 And the true and just Priviledges of Parliament:
 And for so doing they shall be defended and secured
 by Us, and by the Law; with whom, and with
 which we doubt not but Our Subjects
 will sooner chuse to live and die,
 then with the Earl of Essex
 and his Adherents.

FINIS.
